

S/N 10/681,560

REMARKS

Claims 1-20, 22-40 and 42-56 are pending. Claims 23 and 27 are amended to correct typographical errors. No new matter is added.

Response to Restriction Requirement

The Office Action dated November 28, 2005, restricted the claims into the following groups:

- I. Claims 1-20, 21-23, 27-40, 42 and 43, drawn to a method of making water-soluble chitosan, classified in class 536, subclass 55.3.
- II. Claims 24-26, 44 and 51-56, drawn to a water soluble chitosan product and a pharmaceutically acceptable solution thereof, classified in class 536, subclass 20 plus.
- III. Claims 45-50, drawn to a partially acetylated water-soluble chitosan, classified in class 536, subclass 20 plus.

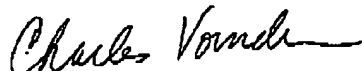
In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant elects with traverse to prosecute Group I, Claims 1-20, 21-23, 27-40, 42 and 43. Applicant notes that claim 21 was cancelled in the previous response.

Applicant respectfully requests that the claims of Group II be rejoined with the claims of Group I for at least the reason that the rejoinder of Group II with Group I would not cause the Examiner any undue burden. Applicant respectfully reminds the Examiner of the prohibition against holdings of double patenting applied to requirements for restriction between a process and a product made by such a process. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional applications on the non-elected claims.

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In the event a petition for an extension of time is required, this paper is to be considered such a petition. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: May 24, 2006
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